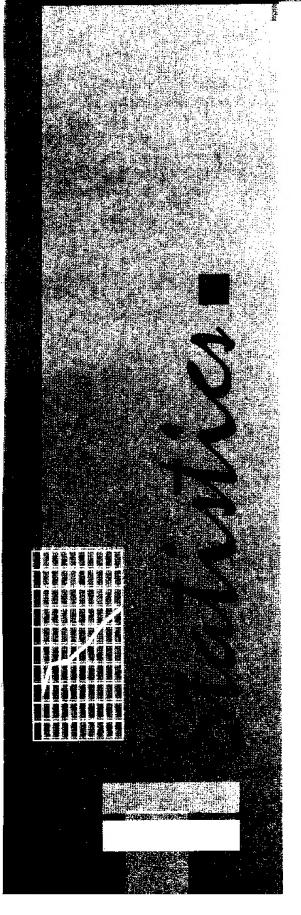


# March 1996

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11:30 AM 25 MARCH 1996



# **Business Indicators**

**Australian Capital Territory** 

ABS Catalogue No. 1303.8

#### NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE.

RELEASE DATE

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SYMBOLS AND OTHER

**USAGES** 

nil or rounded to zero

n.a.

not available

preliminary

n.p.

not available for publication

**INQUIRIES** 

For further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Leonie Peadon on Canberra (06) 207 0286 or any ABS State office.

For information about other ABS statistics and services, please contact Information Services on Canberra (06) 252 6627, or 252 6007 or any ABS State office.

Dalma Jacobs

Statistician Australian Capital Territory

#### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

UPDATED SERIES

Series updated since the February 1996 issue are: labour force, industrial disputes; housing finance, building approvals, building commencements; average weekly earnings; retail turnover; new motor vehicle registrations; and consumer price index. A feature article on ACT public library services is included on page 6.

#### NOTABLE MOVEMENTS

Unemployment

The trend number of persons employed in the ACT decreased in February 1996 to 157,600, a fall of 0.3% (500 persons). The trend unemployment rate in the ACT was 7.3% in February, unchanged from last month and the lowest of all States and Territories except for Northern Territory. The participation rate, while remaining high in the ACT at 73.4% in February 1996, declined by 0.3 percentage points from January.

Industrial disputes

In the year to November 1995 there were only 8 working days lost per 1,000 employees in the ACT compared with 85 working days lost per 1,000 employees nationally.

Housing

The trend number of dwelling units financed in the ACT during December 1995 increased by 3.4% to 910 dwellings. The trend estimate for the value of commitments in the ACT in December 1995 was \$88.1 million, an increase of 3% on the previous month. Unpublished original data on the 'refinancing' component were: 150 dwelling units valued at \$11.4 million.

The trend for the total number of dwelling units approved in the ACT fell 6.2% in January 1996 to 228. Nationally the total number of dwelling units approved fell by 1.4% to 9,914.

The number of new residential housing commencements in the ACT increased by 4.3% in the September quarter 1995 to 337, compared with a fall of 4.2% nationally. The ACT also recorded an increase of 9.2% in the value of building commencements, nationally there was a fall of 5.5% for the September quarter 1995.

Labour force — average weekly earnings Trend estimates of average weekly earnings for the ACT continued the steady upward movement of the past two years. The average weekly earnings for November 1995 was \$635.50, an increase of 1.6% from the previous month. Nationally average weekly earnings increased by 0.6% to \$554.50.

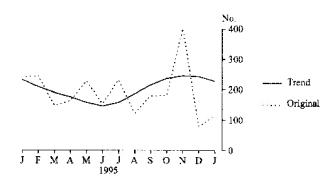
Retail turnover

The trend estimate for retail turnover in the ACT for January 1996 was \$185.8 million, up slightly on the previous month's figure of \$185.3 million. Nationally trend retail turnover increased by 8.3% over the last 12 months compared to 4.6% for the ACT.

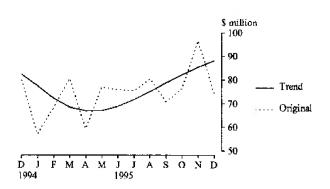
New motor vehicle registrations The trend estimate for new motor vehicle registrations for the ACT in January 1996 was 1,089, an increase of 2.4% over December 1995, and 6.7% higher than for January 1995. Nationally the trend for total new motor vehicle registrations increased 0.7% for January 1996. This represents the third consecutive month of growth in the national estimates, but is still 4.9% below the peak level of April 1995.

#### SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS

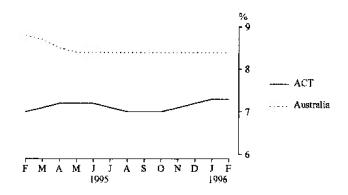
BUILDING APPROVALS -NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS APPROVED



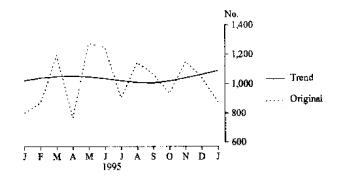
HOUSING FINANCE -TOTAL HOUSING COMMITMENTS



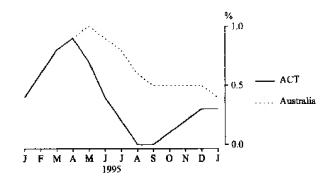
LABOUR FORCE - TREND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



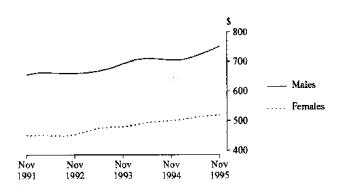
#### **NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS**



MONTHLY RETAIL TURNOVER -- TREND PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH



AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS - TREND TOTAL EMPLOYEES FOR ALL EMPLOYEES



#### **FEATURE ARTICLE**

#### **USE OF ACT PUBLIC LIBRARY FACILITIES**

Summarised below are the results on 'use of public library services' from the Survey of Travel to Work and Educational Institutions and Use of Library Services conducted in the ACT by ABS on behalf of ACT Department of Urban Services during October 1995 as a supplement to the Monthly Population Survey.

The questions on use of library services aimed to determine the characteristics of persons aged 5 years and over who use and do not use ACT public library facilities, and reasons for the non-use of ACT public library facilities.

Just over 45% of Canberrans (aged 5 years and older) reported having used an ACT public library in the 12 months to October 1995. The age groups with the highest library usage rate were the 15 to 17 year olds (74%) and 10 to 14 year olds (72.2%). Persons in the 25 to 34 year age group reported the lowest library usage rate at 32.5%. Females had a higher library usage rate than males for all age groups. Overall, 50.5% of females had used an ACT public library whereas only 40.1% of males had done so. Interestingly, for males the 10 to 14 year age group had the highest library usage at 70%, while for females it was the 15 to 17 year age group (87%).

The main reasons given for non-use of ACT public library facilities were: bought own books/CDs/videos or borrowed from friends (28.2%); preferred other activities/didn't want to use library (19.8%); too busy/not enough time (19.1%); and used another library (e.g. the National Library, school, university or workplace libraries) (31.7%). Both sexes reported buying own books etc. or borrowing as the most common reason for not using an ACT public library (males 25.1% and females 32.0%). However, for males the second most common response was preferred other activities/didn't want to use library (23.6%) compared with females whose second most common response was too busy/lack of time (18.4%).

Additional information on the use of ACT public library facilities is available on request. Results on 'travel to work and educational institutions' will be released in the next issue of ACT Business Indicators.

	Males		Females		Persons	
	'000s	%	- '000s	%	1000s	%
Had used an ACT public library in last 12 months	53.7	40.1	68.9	50.5	122.6	45.3
Had not used an ACT public library in last 12 months	80.2	59.9	67.6	49.5	147.8	54.7
Total	133.9	100.0	136.5	100.0	270.4	100.0
All reasons given for not using an ACT public library in last 12 months <sup>1</sup>						
Buy own or borrow	31.5	25.1	33,9	32.0	65.4	28.2
Prefer other activities etc	29.7	23.6	16.3	15.4	46.0	19.8
Too busy/lack of time	24.8	19.7	19.5	18.4	44,3	19,1
Use another library	22.6	18.0	18.3	17.3	40.9	17.6
Difficulty Reading	4.2	3.3	3.4	3.2	7.6	3.3
Unsure of services/locations	3.6	2.9	3.3	3.1	7.0	3.0
Only recently armyed in ACT	2.8	2.2	3.7	3.5	6.6	2.8
Difficulty in getting to library	1.8	1.4	3.4	3.2	5.2	2.2
Preferred books etc unavail	2.9	2.3	1.9	1.8	4.8	2.1
Other	1.1	0.9	1.9	1.8	3.0	1.3
Don't know	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.4	1.1	0.5

## 1 AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS EXPECTATIONS: SALES, MARCH QUARTER 1996/DECEMBER QUARTER 1996, EXPECTED AGGREGATE CHANGE

<del></del>	Australian Capital Territory	Australia		
Period	%	. %		
Short-term				
Dec. qtr 1994-Mar. qtr 1995	- 1.3	- 0.5		
Mar. gtr 1995-June gtr 1995	5.2	<b>1.</b> 4		
June gtr 1995-Sept. qtr 1995	0.8	1.3		
Sept. gtr 1995-Dec. gtr 1995	2.0	2.1		
Dec. qtr 1995-Mar. qtr 1996	0.5	- 0.2		
Medium-term				
Dec. qtr 1994-Dec. qtr 1995	3.5	3.3		
Mar. qtr 1995–Mar. qtr 1996	3.0	3.0		
June qtr 1995-June qtr 1996	- 0.8	2.3		
Sept. qtr 1995-Sept. qtr 1996	3.1	3.4		
Dec. qtr 1995-Dec. qtr 1996	3.8	4.4		

		, asserting,	Capital Territ	y	Australia				
			Change fn	om		Change	from		
		Latest figure	Previous period	Same period previous year	Latest figure	Previous period	Same period previous year		
Indicator	Unit		%	%		%	%		
POPULATION, VITAL AND LABOUR			•		·				
POPULATION, June qtr 95	'000s	304.1	0.1	1.1	18 054	0.3	1.2		
Natural increase	no.	841	_	3.1	34 193	- 6.7	7.8		
Net migration	no.	<b>- 56</b> 7	<b>- 141.1</b>	250.0	19 332	39.6	344.4		
Total increase	no.	274	- 87. <i>7</i>	- 58.1	53 525	- 22.0	48.4		
LABOUR FORCE, February 96									
Original series									
Employed	'000s	155.9	0.5	1.2	8 264.3	1.0	2.2		
Unemployed	:000s	15.1	3.4	7.1	856.6	3.0	- 3.3		
Unemployment rate <sup>1</sup>	%	8.8	0.2	0.4	9.4	0.2	- 0.5		
Participation rate <sup>1</sup>	%	73.8	0.4	0.5	64.0	0.7	0.1		
Long-term unemployed (January 96)	no.	2 760	11.8	4.7	240 767	9.2	- <b>1</b> 3.5		
Long-term unemployed as percentage total	D.	4.0.0							
unemployed (January 96) <sup>1</sup>	%	18.9	- 0.7	- 1.6	28.9	- 0.6	- 3.7		
Trend series	1000	457.0							
Employed	'000s	157.6	- 0.3	2.5	8 339.4	0.1	2.5		
Unemployed	'000s	12.5	0.8	7.8	763.7	- 0.1	- 2.4		
Unemployment rate <sup>1</sup>	%	7.3	_	0.3	8.4		- 0.4		
Participation rate <sup>1</sup>	%	73.4	- 0.3	1.3	63.8	- 0.1	0.3		
OB VACANCIES, November 95	'000s	1.4	75.0		56.1	- 9.5	- 15.0		
NDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN PROGRESS, Nov. 99	;								
Working days lost	, '000s	_	- 100.0	_	68.7	- 13.7	- 36.0		
Days lost per '000 employees (year	0005	_	- 100.0	<del></del>	00.1	- I3.1	- 30.0		
ended August 95)	no.	8.0	- 11.1	_	85.0	- 6.6	<b>1</b> 9.7		
<del>-</del>		5.0	- 11.1		05.0	··· 0.0	15.1		
BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION HOUSING FINANCE, December 95 Secured commitments to individuals for Original series									
Construction of dwellings	\$m	5.6	- 26.3	- 25.3	419.4	- 22.1	-27.6		
Purchase of new dwellings	\$m	8.9	- 12.7	<b>- 51.9</b>	153.8	- 20.8	<b>- 14.0</b>		
Purchase of established dwellings	\$m	46.1	- 11.2	2.9	2 621.0	-17.4	<b>- 1.0</b>		
Total housing commitments	\$m	74.3	- 23.1	- 7.0	3 194.2	- 18.2	- 6.2		
Seasonally adjusted series									
Total housing commitments	\$m	84.8	- 13.2	-4.0	3 460.3	- 7.7	<b>- 4.7</b>		
Trend series									
Dwelling units financed	no.	910	3.4	4.5	3 787.5	- 0.4	0.9		
Total housing commitments	\$m	88.1	3.0	6.9	3 621.0	- 0.4	3.3		
BUILDING APPROVALS, January 96									
Original series									
Dwelling units	no.	116	45.0	<b>- 51.7</b>	8 304	-6.0	- 26.8		
Value of new residential	\$m	12.0	27.7	- 51.8	795.9	- 6.5	- 21.9		
Value of residential alterations and addition	s \$m	2.6	8.3	- 31.6	1 <del>6</del> 7.4	6.7	14.7		
Value of non-residential	\$m	12.8	- 33.3	- 5.1	794.3	20.5	25.8		
Value of total building	\$m	27.3	- 11.9	- 50.3	1 757.6	5.4	- 2.1		
Trend series									
Dwelling units	no.	228	6.2	- 2.1	9 914	- 1.4	- 28.1		
BUILDING COMMENCEMENTS, September gtr 9	35								
New houses	no.	337	4.3	- 33.7	23 574.0	- 4.2	- 30.2		
Value of houses commenced	\$m	36.0	- 4.0	- 32.6	2 404.3	- 3.4	- 25.3		
Value of non-residential building commenced	\$m	61.0	1.3	- 40.4	2 488.4	- 1.2	31.2		
Value of total commencements	\$m	136.7	9.2	- 33.3	6 316.1	- 5.5	- 11.3		
			J	33.3		0,0			
RICE INDEXES	/4.000 -	20							
Established house price index, Sept. qtr 95	(1989-			2.2	440.0				
RICES, WAGES AND CONSUMER SPENDIN ONSUMER PRICE INDEX, Dect. qtr 95	=100.0 G (1989-9 =100.0	90	- 0.1	- 3.3	112.6	0.2	_		
Food		118.8	1.4	4.6	115.7	0.3	4.3		
Housing		111.8	0.4	8.8	106.1	0.3	4.3 8.8		
Transportation		127.1	0.4	6.9	122.3	0.1	4.7		
All groups		120.0	0.8	5.4	118.5	0.8	5.1		
ार <b>म</b> ारम <b>ा</b> र		7.0	0.0	J		0.0	J,_		
or footnotes see and of table.									

		Australian	Capital Territ	ory	Australia			
			Change fro	om		Change	from	
		Latest figure	Previous period			Previous period	Same period previous year	
Indicator	Unit		%	%		%	%	
PRICES, WAGES AND CONSUMER SPENDING AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, November 95	— conti	inued						
Original series								
Males	\$	858.90	3.5	7.7	662.70	1.2	3.1	
Females	\$	689.50	2.9	7.8	430.00	0.1	1.2	
Total persons	\$	623.40	1.5	7.0	554. <b>3</b> 0	1.2	2.3	
Trend series	e	754.00	2.3	6.7	662.50	0.7	3.2	
Males	\$ \$	751.20 519.70	2.3 0.5	3.6	432.50	0.2	1.5	
Females	5 \$	635.50	1.6	5.9	554.50	0.2	2.3	
Total persons	D	033.30	1.0	5.5	004.00	0.0	2.0	
RETAIL TURNOVER, January 96								
Original series	¢	73.4	13.6	9.7	4 041.9	- 13.3	11.6	
Food retailing	\$m \$m	13.4 19.7	- 57. <b>8</b>	5.9	839.8	- 55.0	11.6	
Department stores	\$m	25.8	- <b>15</b> .7	11.7	1 813.9	- 14.0	7.4	
Hospitality and services	\$m	54.5	- 34.5	11.9	3 225.3	- 30.1	11.2	
All other retailing Total	\$m	173.4	- 29.4	10.2	9 920.9	- 25.1	10.7	
Trend series	40111	2,0	2011			-		
Food retailing	\$m	74.9	0.4	6.4	4 047.7	0.2	10.3	
Department stores	\$m	23.9	- 0.4	1.7	972.8	0.3	4.5	
Hospitality and services	\$m	27.8	- 0.4	- 2.5	1 777.8	0.5	7.8	
All other retailing	\$m	59.2	0.7	7. <b>1</b>	3 304.3	0.7	7.1	
Total	\$m	185.8	0.3	4.6	10 102.6	0.4	8.3	
TOURISM AND TRANSPORT HOTELS, MOTELS AND GUEST HOUSE ACCOMMODATION, June qtr 95 Original series								
Room nights	'000s	209.3	-1.6	5.1	8 535.5	- 2.4	4.1	
Takings at current prices	\$m	19.2	2.1	11.6	756.1	- 2.7	12.1	
Takings at 1989–90 prices	\$m	16.4	1.2	6.5	650.8	- 3.8	7.1	
Room occupancy rate (September qtr 95)1	%	62.7	- 1.3	- 3.3	59.9	3.8	1.5	
Seasonally adjusted series	1000	222.2	4.7		9.044.0	- 0.1	4.2	
Room nights	'000s	222.6	1.7	5.5	8 911.0 802.1	1.8	4.2 12.2	
Takings at current prices	\$m	19.7 16.7	1.5	11.9 6.4	690.3	0.6	7.2	
Takings at 1989–90 prices	\$m	16.7		6.4	090.3	0.0	1 - 4-	
Trend series	'000s	221.7	2.9	4.9	8 929.7	0.3	4.0	
Room nights Takings at current prices	\$m	19.6	3.2	8.9	802.4	2.0	11.1	
Takings at 1989–90 prices	\$m	16.6	1.8	3.1	691.5	0.8	6.2	
<del>-</del>	****							
NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS, Jan. 96	no.	877	- 16.0	9.2	44 441	- 12.3	3.5	
Motor vehicles Seasonally adjusted motor vehicles	no.	1 078	- 1.6	0.9	53 232	2.1	- 1.8	
Trend motor vehicles	no.	1 089	2.4	6.7	51 909	0.7	<b>- 2.7</b>	
AGGREGATE INDICATORS STATE ACCOUNTS, September qtr 95 <sup>2</sup> Original series								
Gross State product at av. 1989-90 prices	\$m	2 013	- 3.6	1.6	104 207	1.2	1.7	
Gross State product at current prices	\$m	2 335	- 3.8	1.6	116 382	1.4	4.9	
State final demand at av. 1989-90 prices	\$m	2 832	- 2.7	-2.7	103 691	- 1.9	2.1	
Private final consumption expenditure	\$m	1 383	3.1	4.9	73 816	3.3	6.3	
Private gross fixed capital expenditure Trend series	\$m	191	_	- 35.5	18 808	- 3.8	- 1.3	
Gross State product at av. 1989-90 prices	\$m ¢	2 051	0.4	1.3	105 068	0.5	2.3 6.1	
Gross State product at current prices	\$m \$=	2 385	0.5	2.0	118 224 104 254	1.8 0.1	6.1 2.6	
State final demand at av. 1989–90 prices	\$m \$m	2 827 1 374	- <b>0.6</b> 1.1	- 3. <b>1</b> 5.4	73 663	1.7	7.1	
Private final consumption expenditure	\$m \$m	184	– 9.4	- 35.9	18 796	- 1.3	- 2.2	
Private gross fixed capital expenditure	ΦIII	TQ#	- 5.4	- 35.8	70 190	- 1.0	~ ~ . ~	

Change shown in terms of percentage points.
 State estimates are not comparable to national estimates for June quarter 1995 due to revised aggregates in State Accounts (5242.0).
 Source: ABS Catalogue Nos: 3101.0, 5242.0, 5609.0, 6202.0, 6203.0, 6302.0, 6321.0, 6354.0, 6401.0, 6408.0, 6416.0, 8501.0, 8635.8, 8731.0, 8752.0, 9214.0, 9301.0.

Indicator	Unit	Late peri		NSW	Vic.	Qid	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	A⊔st.
POPULATION	'000s	June	e qtr	95 6 115.1	4 502.0	3 277.4	1 474.0	1 731.7	473.0	173.9	304.1	18 054.0
LABOUR FORCE												
Employed persons (trend)	2000°		. 96		2 083.7		654.9	828.8	202.6	_	157.6	8 339.4
Unemployment rate (trend)	%	Feb.	. 96	7. <b>6</b>	8.7	9.3	9.4	7.9	10.0	6.1	12.5	8.4
STATE ACCOUNTS1												
Gross State product at	¢	Con	+ ~+·	ne ae 769	07 744	17 102	7 550	44 767	2.000	4 400	0.054	405.000
1989–90 prices (trend) Gross State product at	\$m	Sep	ı. gır	95 35 763	27 714	17 427	7 559	11 767	2 089	1 193	2 051	105 068
current prices (trend)	\$m	Sep	t. qtr	95 40 587	30 843	19 372	8 701	12 499	2 464	1 265	2 385	118 224
BUILDING APPROVALS												
Dwelling units approved	no.	Jan.	96	2 896	1 519	1 867	355	1 241	228	82	116	8 304
Dwelling units approved												
(trend) Value of non-residential	no.	Jan.	96	3 227	1 877	2 394	452	1 280	223	106	228	9 914
building approved	\$m	Jan.	96	281.9	163.5	95.1	64.4	108.2	42.3	26.2	12.8	794.3
Value of all buildings	'											
approved	\$m	Jan.	96	651.9	346.1	289.4	102.1	<b>236</b> .2	69.2	35.4	27. <b>3</b>	1 757.6
ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTI	ON											
Value of engineering	Ф	Cont		0E 4 000 6	E07.4	725.6	444.0	E44.2	40.4	E4 7	24.0	2 240 7
construction work done	\$m	Sepi	ı. qır	95 1 280.6	527.4	125.6	141.8	511.3	<b>42</b> .4	51.7	31.9	<b>3</b> 312.7
VERAGE WEEKLY EARNING	-											
Full-time adult ordinary time (trend)	\$	Nov.	atr 9	5 694.00	652.10	616.80	613.70	671.90	614.40	664.90	767.90	661.40
RETAIL TRADE	*				302,23	320,00		0.2.00				4010
Retail turnover (trend)	\$m	Jan.	96	3625.9	2 293.5	<b>1 8</b> 25.1	762.8	1047.3	244.5	177.6	185.8	10 102.6
HOTELS, MOTELS & GUEST HOUSE ACCOMMODATION Room nights occupied (trend)	'000s	June	e qtr s	95 3 025.3	1 436.1	2 381.5	494.8	820.1	264.5	285.7	<b>221</b> .7	<b>8 929</b> .7
IEW MOTOR VEHICLE												
REGISTRATIONS		lon	0.0	47.005	40.000	0.000	2 600	E 000	1.000	674	4.000	E4 000
Trend	no.	Jan.	90	11 980	12 639	9 823	3 602	5 002	1 096	674	1 089	51 909
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX				Syd.	Melb.	Bris.	Adel.	Perth	Hob.	Dar.	Cant	o. Aust.
(1989–90=100.0)												
Food			qtr 9		114.0	115.8	118.2	115.8	117.1	116.	4 118	3.8 115.7
Housing			qtr 9		102.8	112.1	103.8	100.8	106.5			1.8 106.1
Transportation All Groups			qtr 9	95 121.9 95 118.3	122.5 118.5	120.1 118.6	124.3 121.1	123.1 116.3	120.1 1 <b>19</b> .2		_	7.1 122.3 3.0 118.5
		Dec.	qu s	75 110.5	110.0	110.0	121.1	110.5	113.2	113.	2 12(	7.0 110.0
Average retail prices (cents) Milk, carton, supermarket												
sales	1 litre	Dec.	qtr 9	5 110.0	117.0	112.0	114.0	116.0	120.0	109.	0 106	3.0 n.a.
Bread, white loaf, sliced,												
supermarket sales	680 g		qtr 9		164.0	180.0	148.0	166.0	154.0			
Beef, rump steak Chicken, frozen	1 kg 1 kg		qtr 9	5 1 311.0 5 280.0	325.0	267.0	331.0	1 101.0 329.0	323.0			
Potatoes	1 kg		qtr 9		177.0	151.0	134.0	120.0	93.0			
Coffee, instant	<b>1</b> 50 g jar				590.0	600.0	552.0	577.0	644.0			
Scotch nip, public bar	30 ml	Dec.	qtr 9	5 3 <b>1</b> 3.0	266.0	246.0	317.0	374.0	215.0	306.	0 288	3.0 n.a.
Private motoring petrol, leaded  Private motoring	1 litre	Dec.	qtr 9	5 71.9	73.0	64.1	74.0	75.7	78.5	77.	1 76	6.1 n.a.
Private motoring — petrol, unleaded	1 litre	Dec.	qtr 9	69.9	71.0	62.1	71.7	73.7	76.5	75.	1 74	1.1 n.a.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> State estimates are not comparable to national estimates for June quarter 1995 due to revised aggregates in State Accounts (5242.0).

4

ACT IN RELATION TO THE REST OF AUSTRALIA — PERCENTAGE CHANGES

Indicator	Latest period	NSW	Vic.	Qld	\$A	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
POPULATION	June qtr 95	0.3	0.1	0.7	0.1	0.4	_	0.2	0.1	0.3
LABOUR FORCE										
Employed persons (trend) Unemployment rate (trend) <sup>1</sup>	Feb. 96 Feb. 96	_	0.3	0.2 - 0.1	_	0.1	0.3	1.2 - 0.2	- 0.3 0.1	0.1 —
STATE ACCOUNTS <sup>2</sup>										
Gross State product at 1989–90 prices (trend)	Sept. qtr 95	0.6	0.6	1.1	1.7	1.0	-0.4	0.6	0.4	0.5
Gross State product at current prices (trend)	Sept. qtr 95	2.0	1.3	2.2	1.6	1.8	1.0	1.5	0.5	1.8
BUILDING APPROVALS										
Dwelling units approved	Jan. 96	- 0.9	<b>- 16.7</b>	- 15.9	- 18.2	24.7	4.1	- 41.8	45.0	- 6.0
Dwelling units approved (trend) Value of non-residential	Jan. 96	- 2.9	<b>- 1.1</b>	- 0.5	- 6.3	- 0.4	0.4	_	- 5.9	- 1.4
building approved	Jan. 96	28.2	- 5.2	- 33.4	78.4	152.2	211.0	114.8		20.5
Value of all buildings approved	Jan. 96	10.4	12.6	- 20.3	28.4	60.1	97.2	41.6	- 11.9	5.4
ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION										
Value of engineering construction work done	Sept. qtr 95	- 8.9	- 23.7	- 6.3	- 29.9	7.0	- 35.7	- 26.6	- 17.6	- 11.1
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS										
Full-time adult ordinary time										
(trend)	Nov. atr 95	1.4	0.8	0.9	- 0.2	1.9	0.9	0.4	2.3	1.1
RETAIL TRADE										
Retail turnover (trend)	Jan. 96	0.6	0.6	0.3	- 0.6	0.6	8.0	50.6	0.3	0.4
HOTELS, MOTELS & GUEST										
HOUSE ACCOMMODATION  Room nights occupied (trend)	June atr 95	0.1	- 0.6	0.9	- 1.9	2.3	1.2	- 3.6	2.9	0.3
	3 di 10 qu									
NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS										
Trend	Jan. 96	0.4	1.3	0.9	1.4	- 1.1	0.7	2.4	2.4	0.7
		Syd.	Melb.	Bris.	Adel.	Perth	Hob.	Dar.	Canb.	Aust.
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX		Oju.	771010:	5/101	racii					
(1989–90=100.0)	Dec. qtr 95	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	- 0.7	~ 0.2	1.0	1.4	0.3
Food Housing	Dec. atr 95	0.9	0.4	0.6	1.1	0.8	0.5	2.1	0.4	0.7
Transportation	Dec. qtr 95	0.7	0.1		-0.1	- 0.2	0.6	- 0.7	0.2	0.2
All Groups	Dec. qtr 95	0.9	8.0	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.7	1.0	8.0	0.8
Average retail prices (cents)										
Milk, carton, supermarket sales Bread, white loaf, sliced,	Dec. qtr 95	0.9	0.9	0.9			_	2.8	_	n.a.
supermarket sales	Dec. qtr 95	0.5	1.9	4.0		5.1	- 1.3	2.2	- 2.7	n.a.
Beef, rump steak	Dec. qtr 95	0.9	- 2.7	- 0.9	- 4.0	- 4.6	- 4.2	- 3.1	0.5	n.a.
Chicken, frozen	Dec. qtr 95	4.5	11.3	- 9.2	0.3	5.4	- 10.5		19.3	n.a.
Potatoes	Dec. qtr 95	14.7	33.1	24.8	26.4	- 2.4	36.8	23.6	14.3	n.a.
Coffee, instant	Dec. qtr 95	1.9	3.7	7.0	- 2.0	0.7	0.8	7.1	3.6	n.a.
Scotch nip, public bar	Dec. atr 95	1.3	3.1	0.4	0.6	2.5	1.4	2.7	2.9	n.a.
Private motoring — petrol,										_
leaded	Dec. qtr 95	- 0.7	- 1.2	- 2.3	<b>– 1</b> .7	<b>- 1</b> .7	1.3	<b>– 1</b> .7	0.4	n.a.

Change shown in terms of percentage points.
 State estimates are not comparable to national estimates for June quarter 1995 due to revised aggregates in State Accounts (5242.0).

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